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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

TRADE WITH KABUL MAY DECLINE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by J.D. Singh]

[Text] Kabul, February 5. Indian business circles here fear a sharp decline in bilateral trade as a result of the recent turn of events in Afghanistan.

The fear is based on the possibility of denial or curtailment of transit facilities extended by Pakistan for Indo-Afghan trade by road and sea and the Soviet desire to meet Afghanistan's requirements of machinery and consumer goods from East Europe.

An indication of the likely Soviet influence on the future pattern of Afghanistan's trade was available when an Indian importer on a visit to Kabul was told by local officials that future contracts would depend on the advice of Soviet advisers.

It is assumed that the Soviet Union will sell to Afghanistan items produced by it or by member countries of the bloc. Commodities which they do not produce in sufficient quantities like tea and sugar may be procured from India and other sources.

In fact, the Soviet Union is already lifting large quantities of sugar from Cuba, its ally, and selling it to Afghanistan and other countries. Even tea and other traditional Indian goods may in future come to Afghanistan via the Soviet Union.

Smuggling Falls

While this sudden change in trade relations will deprive India of dry and fresh fruits it buys from Afghanistan, it will hit Afghanistan even harder. For Afghanistan may find it difficult to get alternative markets for them. Even if it finds such markets, [as printed].

For instance, green or soggy 'gishmish' is consumed only in the Indian sub-continent and Afghanistan will be hard put to find alternative buyers.

European countries buy black and hard 'kishmish' for use in puddings and not green 'kishmish.'

A sharp decline in smuggling across Afghanistan's border with Iran and Pakistan has already hit imports from India. Much of the fine quality tea brought to Afghanistan from India was smuggled to Iran and Pakistan where consumers had acquired a taste for it. Iranian tea is much inferior in quality and those who could afford a higher price preferred Indian tea. According to reliable estimates, as much as 80 percent of the Indian tea imported into Afghanistan was smuggled to Iran and Pakistan.

With smuggling sharply curtailed, there is already a glut of tea in the Kabul markets with a consequent fall in fresh imports from India.

India sold 10,000 tonnes of sugar to Afghanistan in 1978, but sales since then have been reduced greatly with the Soviet Union supplying Cuban sugar to this market.

India's trade with Afghanistan totalled about \$25 million a year and imports and exports were almost equal. India buys dry and fresh fruits and sells tea, sugar, bicycles, tyres and other goods to Afghanistan.

Until two years ago a barter system existed between the two countries, but this was replaced in 1978 by a new trade agreement on the basis of free foreign exchange. Even so the attempt on India's part has been to maintain a balance in trade.

Curiously the decline in smuggling activity has adversely affected Afghanistan's revenue. Customs duty from imports was a major source of income and with exports being gradually curtailed this income has gone down. The other sources of income—tax from big landlords, income from exports and purchase of dollars by Afghan individuals in Iran—have also been affected.

Many of the big landlords have either been deprived of their holding after the land reforms introduced in 1978 or have fled the country with a resultant loss in tax collection from them. In addition the landlords had taken huge bank loans which will have to be written off.

In the past Afghanistan's exports were sold for cash. But now the Soviet Union buys them in exchange for commodities. The pattern of Soviet trade with East European nations from which it lifts raw materials in exchange for consumer goods or ma-

chinery at prices determined by it is being repeated in Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union takes through a pipeline from Mazar-i-Sharif in Northern Afghanistan its entire gas production. Whether the price it pays is remunerative is a matter of doubt.

Afghanistan will also find that such sources of finance as the Muslim Bank and the World Bank would dry up in the wake of the Soviet intervention. Whether the Asian Development Bank will continue to make funds available is not yet clear. Unless alternative sources of finance are available, Afghanistan may have to drastically prune its five-year development plan.

However, the expectation in Kabul is that the Soviet Union will not let the people of Afghanistan starve (the country has a shortfall of two lakh tonnes of grain). On the contrary, it will make ample funds available for development and construction so that the benefits of the changeover become visible to the common people.

KORAN QUOTED FOR, AGAINST AIADMK

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Feb 80 p 12

[Text] Madras, Feb. 5. The Tamil Nadu Assembly today witnessed a 10-minute noisy exchange between a Muslim member of the Opposition and a Muslim Minister over what the AIADMK Government had done to the Islamic community, each interpreting the Koran to suit his line of argument.

Speaking on the Governor's address, the lone Muslim League member, Mr. M.A.A. Latheef, alleged that the AIADMK Government was unsympathetic to the cause of Muslims. He congratulated the former Harijan Minister, Mr. P. Soundarapandian, who, he said, had quit the Government because of its anti-Harijan stance. "We, too, have one in the Cabinet who clings to power...."

Reacting to this veiled reference to him, the Rural Industries Minister, Mr. Raja Mohamed, said he was doing whatever was possible within the Constitution. He was also conscious of the fact that it was a secular State and that a Minister should have in his heart the interest of all. "I have faith in my religion, but I am not a fanatic. I work for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu, not merely for one community. Even the Koran speaks of equal treatment to all religions."

"But not at the cost of one's own religion," Mr Latheef interjected. What the Koran said was: 'You follow your faith; let them have theirs.' But, Mr. Latheef contended, the Government had done nothing to better the lot of Muslims and the Minister had been keeping quiet.

Promptly denying that Mr. Raja Mohamed challenged Mr. Latheef to meet him in argument at a public platform over his, as well as the Government's attitude towards Muslims.

When the breeze continued and neither appeared to relent, the Speaker, Mr. Munu Adhi, appealed for calm. He was annoyed at the debate often taking unpleasant courses. He pointed out that the House was not a place for throwing challenges and, since the members were supposed to speak addressing the Chair, any derogatory remark made within the House would only lower the prestige of the Chair.

INDIA

BRIEFS

REFINERY CAPACITY DOUBLED--A proposal to double capacity of the 6,000 b/d Madras refinery in India is being considered by its three equity owners--the government, National Iranian Oil Co and Amoco. The plant is now running at full on crude produced jointly by NIOC and Amoco offshore Iran. During Iran's oil export cutoff earlier this year, the plant ran a combination of crudes including Kuwaiti, Iraqi, Basrah Heavy and Arabian Light. Under a state-to-state contract India signed in May, it is currently receiving 85,000 b/d of Iranian crude. India owns 71% interest in the plant and NIOC and Amoco 14.5% each. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 27 Jan 80 p 4]

CSO: 4220

ALL CATEGORY B POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED

Generals To Be Tried

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Dec 79 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] as of Thursday [20 December], except for 23 persons who will be sent to trial. Indonesia no longer held any G-30-S/PKI [30 September 1965 movement/Indonesian Communist Party] prisoners. The last 105 Group B political prisoners were released yesterday from various detention areas in Indonesia. Included among them was the writer, Pramudya Ananta Tur, who was released in Semarang.

Adm Sudomo, PANGKOPKAMTIB [commander, Command for the Restoration of Security and Order], who announced the release of the prisoners, said Maj Gen Rukman (former commander of the East Indonesia Defense Region Command), Maj Gen Pranoto Reksosamudro (former Assistant 3, Army Chief of Staff) and Brig Gen Suharyo (former commander of the IXth Mulawarman Military District, East Kalimantan) are included among the 23 Group A prisoners who will be tried.

Maj Gen Pranoto Reksosamudro was appointed by President Sukarno, after the rebellion was put down, as caretaker commander of the Army to fill the vacancy created by Gen Achmad Yani's death. Gen Yani was one of the senior officers who was kidnaped and killed during the aborted coup. His body was found in an old abandoned well in Lubang Buaya along with the bodies of five other senior officers.

Brig Gen Suharyo, the former commander of the Mulawarman Military District, was captured only after he landed at the Bandar Halim Perdanakusuma Airport on 17 June 1977. From the time the movement was crushed until 1977 Suharyo and his family resided abroad, ultimately in Moscow.

Suharyo was felt to be an important link, because, prior to the time the G-30-S/PKI movement was crushed, he was often in close touch with Brig Gen Supardjo, the former commander of the Tempur [Battle] II Command and KOSTRAD [Army Strategic Command]. Brig Gen Supardjo was executed after being sentenced to death.

Asked whether any of the top PKI leaders were included among the 23 Group A prisoners, Sudomo said those had all been tried.

The Group B prisoners who have been released are still obligated to report periodically, the PANGKOPKAMTIB said. "They must report [to the authorities] once a week," he said. How long this obligation will remain in effect greatly depends on their behavior in society. Their attitude must reflect the agreement they signed, he remarked.

Touching on former prisoners who had been writers, the PANGKOPKAMTIB said that they may continue to write as long as such efforts are not part of their political activities. Two famous writers are included among the 83 persons released in Semarang, namely Pramudya Ananta Tur and Rivai Apin, and two journalists, namely Hadsyim Rachman, the former general manager of BINTANG TIMUR, and Naibaho, the former responsible person of HARIAN RAKYAT.

They are not required to show us every piece of writing they produce, Sudomo said. Should the piece contain political elements and be published it will be withdrawn from circulation, he said.

Of the 83 prisoners released in Semarang, 41 were detained on Buru Island. They were taken from Buru last month and moved to Magelang prior to being released.

Nine [sic] Group B prisoners were released in Jakarta on the same day: one each from West and East Java, 10 from the south of Sumatra, and one each from South and Southwest Sulawesi.

Pramudya Ananta Tur, who wrote a number of famous novels, was born in Blora (Central Java) and was a very special Group B prisoner, not only because he was the most famous writer, but also because was given special treatment, as he himself has admitted.

This is evident from the fact that he was the only prisoner to be given the use of a typewriter. Other comrades, for instance Rivai Apin or Hasyim Rachman, the former head of HARIAN BINTANG TIMUR, or Naibaho, the former head of HARIAN RAKYAT, were never given the same privilege.

Mrs Aidit Freed

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 21 Dec 79 pp 1, 19

[Excerpts] During a question and answer session with SINAR HARAPAN after the release ceremony, Pramudya Ananta Tur (54 years old) said he would return to his former profession as an author. He further plans to open a bicycle shop. Asked whether he would continue to reside in Jakarta or go elsewhere, Pramudya said he would remain in Jakarta, because Jakarta was a cultural center.

Asked whether he would write about his experiences during his incarceration on Buru Island, Pramudya said this was among his plans. He said he had completed eight manuscripts while there.

Meanwhile, Col Suyud, territorial assistant to the regional special executive for Central Java and the Special Region of Yogyakarta, in reply to a question by SINAR HARAPAN at the close of the release ceremony, said Pramudya Ananta Tur was not treated any better than any other Group B prisoner. Although Pramudya was a world renowned artist, he has the same status as other prisoners, and was given no privileges up to the time of his release on 20 December.

In answer to a question by SINAR HARAPAN, Hasjim Rachman, the former general manager of BINTANG TIMUR, said he would like to return to journalism, if permitted to do so.

Naibaho, the former general manager of HARIAN RAKYAT, now 60 years old, no longer wants to return to journalism. "I am too old," he remarked.

The atmosphere was filled with emotion when the three children of the painter Trubus, (Ratnawati, Sri Sudaryati and Sri Sulistianarti) failed to be reunited with their father.

Wearing dark glasses, one of Trubus' children told reporters who swarmed around them that she was convinced their father was still alive.

The Jakarta ceremony in which 22 prisoners, including Dr Sutanti Aidit, were released, was a moving one. The brief ceremony took place at the [headquarters] of the Military Police, Fifth Military District, Greater Jakarta. According to Antara, Mrs Sutanti could not hold back her tears on hearing the prisoner release announcement.

"Up to now I have truly been oblivious of God, but this won't hold true any longer. I will really follow the teachings of the religion to which I have professed, the Islamic religion," she said, wiping away her tears.

Last of 30,000 Prisoners

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 21 Dec 79 pp 1, 7

[Excerpts] The return of the political prisoners to society has been carried out by the government in phases since 1975. In 1975, 1,309 persons were released; 2,500 were released in 1976; 10,000 in 1977; 10,000 in 1978; and 9,285 persons were released in 1979.

As of 20 December 1979, 33,194 Group B prisoners were released under the policy outlined by the government.

6804

CSO: 4213

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN EAST TIMOR DISCUSSED

Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian Jul 79 pp 3-16

[Article by Hendra Esmara: "Developmental Prospects in East Timor"]

[Excerpts] This article attempts to give a picture of East Timor after it was abandoned by the Portuguese, and to describe policy measures that have been adopted for the development of the territory. In addition, the article also presents various regional development concepts, and views the future prospects of East Timor.

The Portuguese government paid scant attention to subsistence agriculture compared to plantation crops. Although rice and corn were the dietary mainstays of the population, the authorities gave higher priority to the cultivation of coffee, to the extent that it reached 90 percent of the value of exports from East Timor.

The entire communications network was intended only to serve the interests of the Portuguese colonial government, especially in connection with extracting taxes from the population. The Portuguese government paid no attention at all to raising the level of prosperity of the inhabitants, because all available data about East Timor relates to the problem of taxation. Thus, it is not too amazing that the level of health, education and the standard of living remained low.

Malaria was the principal illness in the colony. The total number of inhabitants afflicted with the disease in 1970 was estimated at 66,368 people, or 11 percent of the population. Moreover, it is estimated that this total increased further in subsequent years. In addition to malaria, there were also several types of illnesses deriving from nutritional deficiencies, such as undernourishment, tuberculosis, etc. Medical facilities were very limited.

The level of education during the Portuguese colonial era was far behind that of Indonesia. This was the chief problem in making the wheels of administration turn after federation with the government of the Republic of Indonesia. The highest level of education in East Timor was the Liseum,

or high school. A large number of children reaching primary school age could not be accommodated due to limited school facilities and lack of teachers. About 95 percent of local children who were able to complete primary school were graduates of Catholic mission schools.

The low standard of living of the population was exacerbated by the position of the Portuguese government toward the desire of the East Timorese to associate themselves with Indonesia. As is common among colonial powers, there was still some unwillingness in Portuguese government circles to relinquish East Timor. This resulted in armed conflict during which casualties were suffered by the Timorese themselves. Destruction was wrought increasingly to the infrastructure of the colony, while existing social service facilities became paralyzed.

Because they were unable to cope with the opposition of the East Timorese people, the Portuguese finally were compelled to leave the territory. The Portuguese presence, attracted to the area by sandalwood trees 450 years ago, came to an end with the integration of the East Timorese people with the Republic of Indonesia.

Recognizing the low standard of living of the inhabitants, a new period has now begun for the advancement of East Timor as part of the Republic of Indonesia. With this principle of advancement serving as an overall matrix, several stages of regional development have been delineated, as follows:

First, the rehabilitation stage covered the period September 1976 to March 1977. During this stage, an inventory was made of the problems faced by East Timor and emergency measures to overcome them drawn up. Keeping in mind the situation in East Timor, the problems to be confronted were as follows:

1. The restoration of order in the entire territory.
2. The adjustment of governmental machinery so that the wheels of administration could turn again.
3. The limit of financial resources that could be devoted to regional development.
4. The inequality of population density plus the influx of refugees from the interior to urban areas.
5. The imbalance between the capabilities of the ecosystem and the increase in population.
6. The wretched state of the colony's infrastructure which in turn aggravated the difficulty of interregional communication.

7. The low level of health, education and nutrition, a situation accompanied by a concurrent lack of facilities for social welfare.

8. The extremely low purchasing power of the inhabitants.

During the rehabilitation period, efforts were made to repair and restore to use, projects that were destroyed as a result of the turmoil.

Second, there was the consolidation stage which lasted from April 1977 to March 1978. Problems that were encountered during the rehabilitation stage were gradually reduced in number during the consolidation stage. However, the steps that were taken were largely directed at the refinement of the administrative apparatus.

During the consolidation stage, efforts that had been pioneered during the rehabilitation stage were continued and measures were prepared for adoption during subsequent developmental stages.

Third, the stabilization stage--estimated to have lasted from April 1978 to March 1979. During this period, the authorities counted on fleshing out completely the administrative apparatus and on restoring the normal functioning of government services. It was also anticipated that the life of the population would return to normal by this time.

The stages of development did not succeed one another abruptly, but underwent a gradual transition to the next stage. Problems encountered during the initial stage were still in evidence during subsequent stages. Policies adopted during the initial stage still needed refinement in the second and third stages. Nevertheless, this framework of sequential development stages was able to be used as a monitoring device to measure the pace of overall development in East Timor.

The totality of sequential development stages cannot be separated from the present problems to be confronted. A result of the turmoil in East Timor has been a population movement into the cities by inhabitants who did not feel secure in their homes in the countryside. In addition, the general amnesty offered by President Suharto caused a large number of insurgents to turn themselves in at government posts in various localities. The total number of refugees is estimated to have reached 184,913 by the end of 1978. Around 18 percent of the refugees originated from the district of Bobonaro, and 16 percent from the district of Viqueque. In all, refugees accounted for about 30 percent of the total population of East Timor.

The problem of the restoration of order cannot be considered apart from the resettlement of refugees in their place of origin or in new areas. The development of the agricultural sector, especially the upgrading of the production of good stuffs, is also closely related to the resettlement of refugees. Although arable land that could be used for the production of foodstuffs is only 8 percent of the total area of East Timor, only 2

percent has been successfully put under cultivation. This limited area under cultivation is notably evident in the case of paddy rice. The area under wet (paddy) rice cultivation is only 13 percent of the land which could be potentially used for such a purpose in East Timor. Thus, land area cultivated as rice paddies has just reached 6,514 hectares. As another measure, the planting of second crops could be undertaken in a more intensive manner. Of the total area that could potentially be second-cropped--45,169 hectares--about 43 percent or 19,384 hectares are available for immediate use.

Land which has a potential value for shifting (swidden) agriculture comprises the largest area in East Timor and amounts to 47,908 hectares. However, the use of land for this purpose must be closely monitored, recalling that this system of farming required the inhabitants to move from place to place in previous times.

The planting of paddy (wet) rice in East Timor constitutes a system of farming that is relatively new to the territory. Before the introduction of the IR-5 and IR-8 rice strains, the production of paddy (wet) rice per hectare amounted to only 240 to 480 kilograms annually. However, with the use of improved strains, production has been increased to two tons per hectare.

As a result of floods and land erosion, the production of rice fell from 20,682 tons in 1968 to 11,054 tons in 1969. After 1969, production rose again and reached 25,245 tons in 1973. This means production rose on the average by 23 percent annually. This increase in production is considerably higher compared to other regions. Nevertheless, the level of production at the present time is still insufficient to meet the needs of the population.

In actuality, rice could only be eaten on special occasions, while corn was the grain for daily consumption. The production of corn increased from 13,156 in 1968 to 42,078 tons in 1973. Thus, average production rose about 26 percent annually. The shortage of rice and corn was compensated by cassava and edible roots. Recently, the production of foodstuffs in East Timor rose to 31 percent of population requirements in 1978. Although statistical data on foodstuff production has been lacking since 1973, there is a strong assumption that it has dropped, especially as a result of the unrest in the territory.

Information concerning plantation agriculture is much scarcer than data on subsistence farming. Nevertheless, by observing the development of exports from East Timor, some indirect estimates can be made of plantation crops. Coffee exports in 1972 reached 5,908 tons, while in 1976 they dropped to 4,583 tons. It is estimated that each hectare under coffee production could yield about .4 tons, while the total area devoted to its cultivation amounts to 14,770 hectares.

The decline in exports of plantation crops was also evident for copra, rubber and damar.

An estimate on the number of livestock is difficult to make at the present time. However, in 1969 the number of water buffalo was estimated at 123,900 animals, while cattle amounted to only 67,039 head. The raising of hogs and goats, however, has been carried out more intensively. The butchering of such livestock, though, has lagged behind that of cattle. Reckoned on the basis of 1,000 animals, the butchering rate for hogs and goats was only .4 percent, while for cattle it was 20 and for water buffalo 14. The number of hogs reached a total of 205,510 animals and the number of goats 201,404 in 1969. This means that hogs and goats constitute 54 percent of the livestock population in East Timor.

Nearly all sources of financing for the development of East Timor originate with the central government through its Special Budget. For 1978-79, the development budget totaled 7,457.9 million rupiah, while for the 1977-78 fiscal year it was only 6,513.8 million rupiah. About 47 percent of the development budget consisted of sector projects, while 27 percent was for Inpres Level I projects (see Table 4).

The increase in the development budget was accounted for by Inpres projects, while sector projects underwent no change. The budgetary allocation for development in East Timor was far smaller than that of other provinces. In 1977/78, the allocation of funds for sector projects was only 40 percent [sic] for East Nusa Tenggara, or 1 percent of the amount for metropolitan Jakarta.

Accordingly, various difficulties have arisen concerning the implementation of development in East Timor. First, there are administrative/financial problems. This is reflected by the delay in receiving DIP (Inpres project funds). There has been no reconciliation of DIP with local conditions--recalling that DIP is administered from Jakarta--and there have been other factors as well, such as the regulation of tenders and so forth. Second, the capacity of the territory to absorb development is still limited. The lack of skilled personnel, the primitive state of the internal communications network, the difficulty of finding contractors, the high cost of construction materials plus the problem of security--all of these matters have constituted impediments to the full utilization of the developmental budget during the last two years.

Both the first as well as the second factor above are the reasons why some projects could not be implemented at all, such as Inpres elementary schools and village assistance projects. In the meantime, the physical development of sector projects has been only 20 percent accomplished, while the utilization of the development budget has only reached 14 percent of allocated funds. Progress on other projects to the end of March 1978 has varied between 17 and 34 percent.

Developmental priority in East Timor has only been placed on the agricultural sector. This is not only because a majority of the population is engaged in farming pursuits, but also because arable land--especially for subsistence agriculture--that is presently under cultivation represents only 2 percent of the area that could be potentially used for such purposes. An increase of foodstuff production will also alleviate the ravages of malnutrition that are presently afflicting the population. This in turn will influence the general state of health of the inhabitants.

Nevertheless, the opening up of farmland is not easy. In addition to the mountainous terrain, the population density is not distributed evenly in East Timor.

Centers of population are located in mountainous areas, while the potential for subsistence agriculture lies in the lowland plains. Although this land is more fertile by far, malaria presents the main obstacle to settlement in such lowlands. As long as malaria epidemics are not brought under control, there will be this contradiction in population settlement patterns. On one hand, there is a high population density in areas that lack fertility (mountainous regions) while on the other hand, there are few population centers in areas that have a potential for subsistence agriculture (lowland plains). Population density in certain upland areas, such as Quelicai, reaches up to 360 inhabitants per square kilometer. In the meantime, population density in the lowlands of the southern coast is only 20 inhabitants per square kilometer.

The total population of East Timor was estimated at 624,656 inhabitants in 1978, or almost the same as the population of Sumedang District (West Java) or Tapanuli Selatan District (North Sumatra). Nevertheless, population density in the territory as a whole just reaches 32 inhabitants per square kilometer.

Although, relatively speaking, the population density of East Timor is still low compared to other provinces, the natural resources which must support the inhabitants in East Timor are not in equilibrium with the pattern of population density.

This imbalance can be seen in the pressure on the land that must support the population. Each square kilometer of cultivated land in the district of Manufahi must feed 50,467 people. In the district of Ermera, a square kilometer must feed 32,245 people, and in the district of Cova Lima, 23,346 people. On the other hand, a square kilometer of cultivated land in the district of Dili need support only 206 people and in the district of Ambeno, only 268 people.

Using the production norm of about two tons per hectare annually, it is estimated that each square kilometer of land under cultivation can only support 800 people. If, in addition to the main crop, supplementary foodstuff production, such as corn, tubers and edible roots is taken into

consideration, the number of inhabitants that can be supported does not exceed 1,600 people. This means that in all the districts in East Timor the population far exceeds the capacity of the land to support it, except in the districts of Dili and Ambeno.

The magnitude of the problem can be seen in the district of Manufahi, where arable land comprises .2 percent of the total area of the district. A similar situation exists in the district of Ermera, where also .2 percent of the land area can be utilized for agriculture. Even these miniscule areas are not all cultivated optimally, so that it is not astonishing that the population burden of such districts is insupportable. By contrast, arable land in the district of Dili already comprises 41.5 percent of the total area of the district.

In view of the limited natural resources, population resettlement to other districts becomes an imperative for the inhabitants of the districts of Manufahi, Ermera and Cova Lima. This population resettlement must be in conjunction with the clearing of new land for agriculture. Although improved land utilization efforts must be carried out extensively, their adoption without the concurrent opening up of new land will do little to solve the food problem in East Timor.

Population growth in East Timor is not taking place in a stable manner. In addition to malaria, malnutrition has also influenced population development. During the period 1930-1950, on the contrary, it declined about .33 percent annually. During the period 1950-1970, it rose again to 1.62 percent annually. After 1970, the population increase was very small. For the period 1970-72, it is estimated to have reached .36 percent per year. With a renewed focus of attention on population estimates in 1979, the rate of growth for the 1970-1978 period is considered to have increased only .29 percent annually.

Per capita income level in Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) was 55,037 rupiah in 1978. In Jakarta, it was 182,337 rupiah and in Indonesia as a whole, 90,557 rupiah. This means that per capita income in NTT was only 30 percent of the total for Indonesia as a whole. It was the lowest per capita income of any region in Indonesia at the present time. Economic patterns of NTT differed little from those of East Timor.

By examining various economic indicators on hand, such as the production of foodstuffs, of plantation crops and of exports etc, it is estimated that the per capita income of the population of East Timor did not exceed 60 percent that of NTT. Thus, per capita income in East Timor only reached 33,032 rupiah in 1978.

Based on these estimates of per capita income, the regional GDP of East Timor is thought to have reached 20,521 million rupiah in 1978 or only 15 percent of the total GDP for NTT. At the same time, it is noted that

the population of East Timor comprises about 26 percent of that of NTT. As is the case with NTT, the biggest contributor of East Timor to the GDP was the agricultural sector--around 70 percent.

The rate of growth of the East Timorese economy under the Third Five-Year Development Plan is estimated to be between 2 and 3 percent. This does not differ a great deal from the rate for NTT during the period 1976-78.

With estimates of population growth hovering around 1.6 percent, per capita income will only rise from .4 to 1.4 percent. This estimate for East Timor can be considered the lowest of any region in Indonesia.

Moreover, the rate of regional growth in East Timor will not possibly surpass 4 percent annually. The abolition of malaria, the erection of an infrastructural network of land communication, the survey and mapping of areas for irrigation, the clearing of new agricultural land and the resettlement of the population will require an extended period of time. All these undertakings are preconditions to raising the standard of living of the population. In addition to this, the problem of sources to finance development and the capacity of the region to absorb it cannot be ignored. Thus, the matter of economic growth as one of the measures to raise the standard of living of the population cannot be expected to reach an optimum level under the Third Five-Year Development Plan. This means that per capita income of the population of East Timor will still remain low at the end of the third plan--about 48,013 rupiah annually in 1983. During this same period, the population of East Timor will reach 676,253 people.

An investigation of potential natural resources forms the basis for the promotion of economic growth in the territory. In addition to the possibilities presented by the agricultural sector, it is believed there may be petroleum in the vicinity of Beaco, on the southern coast of East Timor. Several years ago, the Timor Oil Company carried out some petroleum exploration in the region. Because there was uncertainty about the future of East Timor, however, no firm wanted to invest capital in the territory.

Conclusion

The problems of development in East Timor differ greatly from those of other provinces. First, the 450 years of Portuguese colonization caused the inhabitants to remain at a very low standard of living. Second, population settlement patterns do not conform to the location of land that is potentially arable because of malarial areas. Third, the medium of teaching and oral communication which was formerly Portuguese must now be shifted to the Indonesian language.

Short-range developmental policy is aimed at perfecting the administrative apparatus and at measures to improve health, education, population

settlement etc. In the longer term, a basis for subsequent development must be laid down, both in bringing improvements to the infrastructure, as in the construction of roads and bridges, and in the clearing of new land for settlement or farming. The third development plan for East Timor remains oriented towards the improvement of social welfare. With the possibility that regional economic growth in East Timor will range between 2 and 3 percent during the third development plan, per capita income will remain low. Based on a population growth calculation of 1.6 percent annually, per capita income will increase by only .4 to 1.4 percent during the 1979-83 period.

**Estimate of Total Population, Area and Population
Density by Districts in East Timor 1978**

<u>District</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area (in sq. kms)</u>	<u>Population density (inhabi- tants/sq.. km)</u>
Lautem	38,797	3,281	12
Baucau	75,159	1,600	47
Viqueque	62,685	2,065	30
Manatuto	35,505	2,653	13
Dili	26,149	422	62
Aileu	33,034	589	56
Manufahi	35,327	1,295	27
Ainaro	49,644	682	73
Ermera	70,294	1,940	36
Liquica	49,908	965	52
Bobonaro	84,626	1,865	45
Cova-Lima	40,855	1,255	33
Ameno	22,673	809	28
<hr/>			
East Timor	624,656	19,423	32

Table 4. Routine and Developmental Budgetary Allocations for East Timor 1977/78-1978/79 (in millions of rupiah)

<u>Type</u>	<u>1977/78</u>	<u>1978/79</u>
Routine	2,500.0	3,261.6
Development:	6,513.8	7,457.9
Sector Projects	3,500.0	3,500.0
Inpres* Level I	1,500.0	2,000.0
Inpres Level II	520.0	650.0
Inpres Elementary Schools	551.1	550.0
Inpres Health/ Medical	214.7	511.8
Village Assistance	228.0	246.1
Total	9,013.8	10,719.5

*Inpres- Presidential Instruction Funds

Indicators of Land Use for Subsistence
Agriculture in East Timor 1978

District	Comparison of Land Under Cultivation vs. Land Potentially Arable (%)	Comparison of Land Potentially Arable vs. Total Area of District (%)	Pressure on Cultivated Land (inhabitants/sq. km)
Lautem	4	5.6	4,874
Baucau	15	14.7	2,120
Viqueque	6	6.5	7,836
Manatuto	39	0.6	5,699
Dili	73	41.5	206
Aileu	10	6.1	9,100
Manufahi	29	0.2	50,467
Ainaro	31	35.9	655
Ermera	48	.2	32,245
Liquica	46	1.2	9,074
Bobonaro	21	10.4	2,077
Cova-Lima	2	7.0	23,346
Ambeno	76	13.8	268
East Timor	28	7.4	1,563

PETA 1: Propinsi Timor Timur menurut pembagian Daerah Tingkat II. (1)



SUMBER: Machmuddin Noor et al., *Letimpe Propinsi Timor Timur* (Jakarta: Badan Penerbit Almanak Republik Indonesia, 1977), hal. 15. (5)

Key to Map

1. Map 1: Province of East Timor by Level II Districts
2. Level I Regional Province East Timor, Scale: 1/160,000
3. Sawu Sea
4. Timor Sea
5. Source: Machmuddin Noor et al., "The Birth of East Timor Province" (Jakarta: Badan Penerbit Almanak Republik Indonesia, 1977), p. 15.

PT NURTANIO AIMING AT INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT MARKET

Construction of New Facilities

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 15 Dec 79 pp 1, 7

[Excerpts] B.J. Habibie, executive director of PT Nurtanio of Bandung and concurrently state minister for research and technology, is convinced Indonesia is capable of taking over 10 percent of the world market for light transport aircraft.

The minister made this point when he officiated at the inauguration of the first Nurtanio hangar project and the Nurtanio Center for Education and Training, and the cornerstone laying for the second Nurtanio project on Friday [14 December]. The second project is to be built on the site of a former golf course now relocated in Margahyu.

The first hangar project inaugurated by Habibie on Friday morning consists of an 11,500 square meter, seven-story office building that contains 230 offices capable of serving 800 employees.

The project also includes a 5,600 square meter hangar, a 32,000 square meter support building and a 32,000 square meter apron.

The second Nurtanio project is being built on 19 acres of the former golf course, north of the Hussein Sastranegara landing strip. Nine buildings are planned to be completed on this site by the end of 1981.

A central building and offices for the workshop division, training facilities, a health center and polyclinic, an Electronics Directorate building, a multipurpose and central canteen building, an administration center, and other infrastructure buildings will be constructed on this site.

In addition to embarking on its second phase of development, PT Nurtanio is entering a new era in light transport aircraft production through its cooperation with Casa of Spain for the planning and production of the CN-235 aircraft (a two-engine plane with a 35 passenger capacity).

Nurtanio has also been honored by a well-known French aircraft company which has permitted it to produce the Puma SA-330 helicopter capable of carrying 20 passengers. With such cooperation and confidence Nurtanio is beginning to move into integrated international cooperation in the aircraft construction field.

Aircraft Shortage Foreseen

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 19 Dec 79 p 6

[Text] In the past 3 years, PT Nurtanio of Bandung has produced 69 aircraft, consisting of 27 NC-212s and 42 NBO-105 helicopters now being used by six domestic airlines and the friendly nation of Thailand.

PT Nurtanio began to produce these aircraft officially in 1976. It initially employed 615 workers, now employs 2,295, and will employ 10,000 by 1986.

Speaking at the inauguration of the new seven story hangar last Friday, Habibie said there will be a world shortage of small aircraft capable of transporting 10 to 20 persons over short distances between cities during the period 1980 to 2000.

The most pressing need, Habibie said, is for light aircraft with a 22 to 40 passenger capacity [sic]. During this period there will be a shortage of 2,187 of these light aircraft, since very few are now being produced by aircraft companies.

Two companies were making aircraft of this type, namely, the Nord-262 with a 28 passenger capacity and the Short 3-30 capable of transporting 30 passengers. Nord is not producing Nord-262's any longer, while only a few Short 3-30's are being produced by Short.

Under these conditions, Habibie said, Nurtanio's prospects are bright, thanks to its integrated cooperation with Casa of Spain for making the 35 passenger CN-235. A pilot company, Airtoch Industries, has been formed with equal shares of capital invested. It will begin production in 1983.

If Nurtanio can obtain 10 percent of the orders for such small aircraft, valued at \$5 billion, Habibie said, it will be a step forward in the development of the domestic aircraft industry.

6804

CSO: 4213

LEADERS GREET AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL DAY

BK270943 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 26 Jan 80 BK

[Text] On 26 January, LPDR President Souphanouvong sent a greetings message to Zelman Coven, governor general of Australia. The message reads:

Your Excellency, on the occasion of the National Day of Australia, I am happy to extend warm congratulations to you. I also wish to convey through you our best wishes for success to the government and people of Australia. May the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries be further improved.

On the same occasion, Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Phoiun Sipaseut also sent a greetings message to Andrew Peacock, Australian minister for foreign affairs.

CSO: 4206

BRIEFS

LUANG PRABANG STARCHY CROP HARVEST--Vientiane (KPL)--At the end of this year's growing season the multi-ethnic people of localities throughout Luang Prabang Province, while concentrating on bringing in the year's rice harvest without any decline, have also arranged to begin harvesting secondary, starchy crops with great vigor. As of now they have harvested more than in preceding years including several hundred tons of corn, over 3,000 tons of manioc, over 1,990 tons of taro and a number of other crops. One reason that the people of this province have organized to grow secondary, starchy crops widely is to increase and make abundant the production of foodstuffs in their localities. Another reason is to fulfill the quotas for food production for this year that were set by the party. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 14 Dec 79 p A8] 8947

SIANG KHO BANK DEPOSITS--Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979 the cadres, combatants, functionaries, laborers and multi-ethnic people of the offices, departments, units and villages within Siang Kho District, Hua Phan Province, besides sacrificing their brains, flesh and blood, and lives to take part in carrying out the work of the nation in accordance with their individual duties, also voluntarily brought 30,514,000 (liberation) kip of their savings and deposited it in the state bank so the state can use this money to build the prosperity and strength of the nation. The fact that they decided to deposit their money in the bank indicates their patriotism and a high spirit of sacrifice. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 18 Dec 79 p A1] 8947

SIANG KHO LIVESTOCK--Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979 the various kinds of livestock belonging to the people of Siang Kho District, Hua Phan Province gave birth to a fairly large number of offspring which increased the number of livestock in the district to several tens-of-thousands head. Included are 23,770 buffaloes, 4,011 cattle, 2,414 horses, 22,312 pigs and fairly large numbers of ducks, chickens and geese. Among the reasons that the livestock of the people of this district increased so much is that the veterinary medicine cadres at all levels are conscientious about treating them and giving them timely inoculations against diseases. Another reason is that families adopted modern methods of animal husbandry in the care and breeding of livestock, for example, in providing them sufficient food and in keeping their stalls clean. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 18 Dec 79 p A2] 8947

OUDOMSAI INDUSTRY--Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979 the cadres and laborers of the various branches of industry subordinate to the Oudomsai Province Department of Industry and Trade resolutely contributed their creativity and labor to production in order to fulfill the annual production plans. During this period the weaving sector produced over 85,530 meters of cloth, the tailoring sector produced over 11,600 shirts and trousers and the electricity generation and distribution sector served the people by producing 274,585 kilowatts of electricity, building 30 new electric lines and replacing over 20 electric poles which had deteriorated. Besides carrying out their duties so successfully they also worked hard to increase production and to assist the people, such as with digging irrigation ditches and dams, transplanting and harvesting rice, etc. Currently the cadres and workers in each sector are continuing to try to do their work rapidly and diligently in order to meet the goals of the plan for the last 6 months of the year and to produce work records in honor of the coming international labor day celebrations on 1 May. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 19 Dec 79 p A4] 8947

BRASS FOUND IN ATTOPEU--Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979, besides concentrating on making goods available for retail sales to improve the living conditions of the people of various ethnic groups, the cadres of the [Mouang] Saisettha District, Attopeu Province, store appropriately stood ready to buy the production and forest products from the people of their locality. These products included tiger bones, bear bones, buffalo horns, young deer antlers, over 14 tons of brass, 739 sickles and 6 tons of iron cart springs. Currently those cadres and functionaries are determined to buy production and forest products from the people to play a part in encouraging a steady increase in production of goods in their locality. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 19 Dec 79 p A5] 8947

DRY SEASON RICE--After bringing in the harvest and completing arrangements for the annual wet season rice crop the farmers in the various localities within Vientiane city and province hastened to organize implementation of the 1979-80 dry season production plan established by the leadership committee of Vientiane city and province by working dry rice fields, expanding experimentation with burnt field agriculture, and growing starchy crops extensively. According to incomplete local sources in the dry season this year farmers of various ethnic groups, particularly in the labor force of agricultural cooperatives, have united to expand the area of dry season rice fields worked over last year which as reported so far amounts to over 3,700 hectares of dry-season rice fields plowed, over 1,600 hectares planted and using over 60 tons of seed rice. The outstanding performance in dry-season rice field cultivation is by the farmers of Hataifong District who expanded the dry-season rice field area to over 1,700 hectares including over 50 hectares of burnt field agriculture. Currently farmers throughout Vientiane city and province are continuing to plow and to plant dry-season rice fields diligently in order for this to be done on time to ensure a successful harvest. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 22 Dec 79 p 1] 8947

SOAP FACTORY PRODUCTION--During 1979 the fraternal cadres producing "Pep" soap powder, who are subordinate to the Department of Light Industry, Ministry of Industry and Trade, resolutely carried out their specialized tasks with a high spirit of responsibility and produced good results. During this period they produced 615 tons of soap powder for use by the society. This was 15 tons over the established goal. Some 562,000 kilograms were packaged in 250 gram to 1,000 gram bags. Besides doing their specialized work well the fraternal workers of this factory also tried to increase production of their own food. They raised 30 head of cattle and buffaloes, 15 pigs and over 100 chickens. They dug four fish ponds and released 4,000 fish into them. They planted two vegetable gardens with an area of 250 square meters and one banana plantation with an area of 1,000 square meters. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Dec 79 pp 1, 2] 8947

CSO: 4206

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR COMMON COURSE OF ACTION BY MUSLIM NATIONS

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Jan 80 p 5

[Editorial]

[Text] Through direct correspondence and high level talks, the leaders of the Western countries, led by America, have already started reviewing the extraordinary and extremely grave situation resulting from the Soviet takeover of Afghanistan. They are considering countermeasures to respond to the Soviet challenge. While the talks are still in progress, some of the measures under consideration have already been highlighted, such as reappraising the bilateral relations between European countries and the Soviet Union, boycotting the forthcoming Olympic games in Moscow, and providing aid to countries (especially Pakistan) which are threatened by the Soviet aggression.

The cold response and lack of interest on the part of the Muslim and nonaligned nations compared with the willingness and readiness of the Western countries, is surely not a good sign, whatever the reasons. The nonaligned countries, especially the Muslim ones, should take a closer and more realistic look at the situation and use their combined efforts to persuade the Soviets to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan, because the immediate targets of their aggression are the Muslim countries only. The Iranian government, in its letter delivered to the Soviet Embassy in Tehran, has quite correctly referred to the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan as an act of aggression against the entire Islamic World. However, in order to give more weight to that statement and to make the atheistic and expansionist Soviet rulers realise that their military intervention in Afghanistan is being construed as an act of aggression against the entire Islamic World, the voice raised at Tehran should be resounded in other Muslim capitals as well, such as Islamabad, Riad, Ankara, Jakarta, Cairo, Kuala Lumpur, Damascus, Tunis, Algiers, Baghdad, Rabat, Tripoli, etc.

With respect to the above it is encouraging to note that in a conference presided over by Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, while expressing concern over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, it was emphasised that all Muslim nations should adopt a joint course of action to deal with this situation. In this regard an Islamic conference was suggested. At the same time there are reports from New York that there the representatives of Muslim as well as nonaligned

countries are consulting each other to raise the issue of Soviet aggression at the UN Security Council. Such reports do indicate a spirit of enthusiasm in this matter, but the gravity of the situation demands urgent and full-scale actions. In view of the Soviet influence upon the organization of the non-aligned countries, the Muslim countries should not delay in proceeding with their actions, because the Soviet military intervention has dealt a severe blow to the independence and sovereignty of a Muslim country and Iran and Pakistan might be their next targets. Later no Gulf state, including Saudi Arabia, will remain safe. If the brotherly Muslim nations fail in carrying out their responsibility to stop the Soviets from getting to the warm waters, then even those countries [i.e. Islamic] who claim to be socialist or pro-Soviet, will no longer remain safe and secure.

Almost all Muslim states are weak. Some gained independence not long ago. Although a few of these states are overflowing with money, they are still considered backward by present-day standards. The only way, therefore, to overcome their weakness is to have closer ties and cooperation among each other. It makes no difference whether they call a summit meeting or a conference at the foreign ministers level, or refer the matter to the United Nations. What really matters is that they take immediate steps without delay and utilize all their resources in persuading the Soviets to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan. Obviously such a pressure by the Muslim nations can prove effective and successful only through a combined course of action. It would, at the same time, lend support to the efforts of the Western nations and China, who, for their own reasons, are angry and upset by the Soviet aggression.

9484

CSO: 4211

PAKISTAN

ZIA MESSAGE TO NATION

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 31 Jan 80 pp 1, 10

[Text] Rawalpindi, Jan 30: President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has called upon the people to maintain complete unity in their ranks to meet, the "new challenge" facing the Muslim world.

In a message to the nation on the occasion of Eid Milad-un-Nabi being celebrated today, he said Pakistan was giving special importance to this challenge because it considered the recent precedent of changing ideological conflict into war as a dangerous trend.

To stop this trend forthwith was "extremely essential," he said.

The President expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the three-day extraordinary session of the Islamic conference of Foreign Ministers that concluded in Islamabad on Tuesday last.

The President reiterated that the Government was trying in all seriousness and speed at its command to introduce the Islamic system.

He said that he had announced a few steps last year on this very auspicious occasion, and "preparations are afoot for further measures."

He said: "Concerned institutions are reviewing various aspects of national life, especially legal, social and economic. The moment they have completed their work, the Government, after considering their recommendations, will announce further measures. I pray that Allah Almighty may bless our efforts with success."

Text of Message

The following is the English rendering of the message of President Zia-ul-Haq:

"My dear countrymen,

"Assalam-o-Alaikum.

"This year, the sun of the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal is dawning on such a day when events around us are taking a new turn. Today, the entire Islamic world, including Pakistan, is faced with a new challenge. We give it special importance because we consider this recent incident of changing the ideological conflict into war as a dangerous trend, and to stop it forthwith is extremely essential.

"It is a great honour for us that the extraordinary session of the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference which was called to review this situation in the sacred month of Rabi-ul-Awwal was hosted by Pakistan. This three-day conference, which ended on Jan. 29, has been successful on every count.

Unanimity of Ummah

"Solidarity and unanimity of the Islamic Ummah is very important for the survival and development of the Muslim community. We consider it of great value and utility to the world of Islam. In this conference we have taken into consideration supreme national interests and have kept you aware of its deliberations through the mass media. It is a matter of great satisfaction for me that not only you have supported our stand but that you are also fully satisfied with the results of the conference.

"Whereas efforts at an international level are being made to combat this new challenge faced by the world of Islam as mentioned by me, it is also essential that we keep complete unity and strength in our ranks inside the country. I am happy that you are fully aware of the delicacy of the present events and you will frustrate the machinations of all anti-state elements and would be ready to face every difficulty like one man. This is the national need and an important national challenge.

"Let us push into the background the rivalries of the past and strength the Islamic bond, adopt the Holy Quran and the Sunnah in our individual and collective lives and mould our word and deed in accordance with the Shariah. Muslims believe that it is the final prescription through which we can solve our present problems and can also find our way to salvation.

Further Measures

"So far as the Government is concerned it is trying in all seriousness and speed at its command to introduce the Islamic system. In this connection I had announced a few steps last year on this very auspicious occasion. Preparations are afoot for further measures. Concerned institutions are reviewing various aspects of national life, especially legal, social and economic. The moment they have completed their work the Government, after considering their recommendations, will announce further measures. I pray that Allah Almighty may bless our efforts with success.

"My dear countrymen, let us on this auspicious occasion take the pledge that we will become real Muslims and true Pakistanis, and resolve that while seeking solutions to our internal and external problems we shall make Islam and only Islam the beacon light, would fill our hearts with real faith and would bring complete unity in our ranks. Believe me no one can cast an evil eye on a nation equipped with these matchless armaments."

"Pakistan Paindabad."—APP.

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

EDITORIAL LAUDS TURKISH LEAD IN AID TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 1 Jan 80 p 5

[Editorial]

[Text] In addition to the aid being received from the United Nations, some brotherly Arab countries have also arranged to send considerable amounts to help the 400,000 Afghan refugees now living in Pakistan. However, in view of the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, the number of refugees has been rising rapidly. This makes it necessary that other philanthropic organizations also join in the relief program.

The people of Pakistan are very pleased with Turkey for taking up the issue of refugees at the International Red Cross Conference in Geneva. Although no official announcement has yet been made, the issue has already been moved by Turkey which recently shipped its first delivery of relief material. On the other hand the lack of interest shown by the International Red Cross towards this humanitarian problem is unclear. One wonders if the reason for this is the fact that the Afghan refugees are Muslims by religion. Nevertheless, the initiative taken by Turkey might offer a good example to other Muslim countries to follow.

9484

CSO: 4211

PAKISTAN

SOVIETS FAIL IN EFFORTS TO CONVERT BALUCHI LEADER

Rawalpindi, JANG in Urdu 12 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by Asif Jilani, JANG Correspondent]

[Text] London, 11 January. It has been reported that the Baluchi leader Khar Bukhsh Murree has rejected an offer of Soviet arms and money to fight against Afghan refugees who have taken refuge in Baluchistan. A London based news magazine disclosed this quoting refugee sources in Afghanistan and claimed that the Russians are busy trying to stir up Baluchi leaders against Afghan rebels. The newspaper states the Soviets established contacts with Baluchi leader Khar Bukhsh Murree and assured him arms and money if he started fighting against Afghan rebels. But the Baluchi leader is said to have declined the offer. Sources close to Khar Bukhsh Murree, who is presently in London for medical treatment, vehemently denied he has ever received any such offers from the Soviet Union, or that such contacts were established, the sources said.

9557

CSO: 4211

PAKISTAN-ROMANIA VIEW WORLD SITUATION IDENTICALLY

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 9 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 8: The Federal Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said that Pakistan and Romania share common perceptions on major international issues and have cooperated closely in world forums on such important matters as the establishment of new international economic order.

He was speaking at a dinner which he hosted here on Wednesday in honour of the members of the Romanian delegation.

The Minister said that Pakistan and Romania held identical views on the principles of interstate relations which were enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the "solemn joint declaration" that was signed during President Ceausescu's visit to Pakistan in 1973. Both the countries, he added, had consistently reiterated their adherence to these principles.

Referring to the recent developments in the region, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan observed that these tended to threaten peace and consequently the pursuit of peaceful economic and social development. He pointed out that already the influx of half a million refugees from across the western-border had placed tremendous economic burden on Pakistan.

The Finance Minister hoped that in deference to the universal demand voiced in the special session of the United Nations General Assembly and more recently in the extraordinary session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, conditions would soon be created enabling the refugees to return to their homes.

Bilateral Ties

Reciprocating, the Romanian Minister of Chemical Industry, Mr Mihail Florescu, said that his country attached great importance to its relations with Pakistan and desired to strengthen them as far as possible. He said it was heartening that economic cooperation between Pakistan and Romania witnessed big strides within the framework of joint Governmental commission.—APP.

16 MILLION DOLLAR IFAD LOAN FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 28 Jan 80 p 10

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 27: The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) concluded an agreement in Rome on January 25 with the Government of Pakistan for a \$16 million loan for the South Rohri fresh groundwater irrigation project says a UN Press release issued here today.

The loan agreement was signed by IFAD President Abdel Muhsin M. Al Sudeary and by Shahid Malik Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Italy.

The project is designed to increase the availability of irrigation water, counteract the increasing soil salinization and improve water management over about 152,000 acres of land in three districts of the Province of Sind.

This will be achieved by supplementing surface irrigation water with fresh groundwater by means of the installation of tubewells and the improvement of the existing canal and watercourse systems for surface and ground water distribution.

The project also makes provision for land levelling. Farmers will be able to hire tractors and other farm machinery to improve their cultivation practices through a Small Farmers Credit Scheme already under way.

The IFAD loan will help increase the agricultural production and thereby more than double the net incomes and raise the standard of living of 60,000 farm families in the area. The project will also generate additional employment opportunities both during and after the five-year project implementation period.

The IFAD loan is on highly-concessional terms with 50 years for repayment, including a 10-year grace period, and a one percent service charge per annum.

The total project cost amounts to \$81.9 million. The project is co-financed with the Asian Development Bank, which will provide \$47 million. The Government of Pakistan will contribute \$18.5 million.--PPI.

ADDITIONAL ACRES TO GET IRRIGATION WATER

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 19 Jan 80 p 5

[Text] Faisalabad, Jan. 18: Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Bhatti, Punjab Governor's Adviser for Irrigation said the current month long campaign launched for the repair and the maintenance of 10,000 water courses will help irrigation 10 lakh additional acres of land in the Punjab Province.

He was on tour to the various rural development markaz here for educating the farmers and Government officials about the importance of the programme for improvement of water courses.

Dr. Bhatti said that in view of the colossal waste of water sources our country was not only suffering from low agricultural production but the water level was also gradually rising. He said it was high time that the available precious water resources were put to most productive use on scientific basis.

He said Government has decided to award suitable prizes to the Union Council Chairmen in each markaz in the Province who would take lead in the improvement of water courses. However, the Adviser said that if any chairman failed to give due performance in this vital programme of national importance he would be declared incompetent for any future national responsibility.

Dr. Bhatti impressed upon the farming community and Government functionaries to put into their best efforts during the canal closure period. He said that as a result of improved water channels the farmers would be able to get adequate supply of water for irrigation purposes and this would take us a step nearer to the destination of food self-sufficiency. APP.

CSO: 4220

KHAIPUR DRAINAGE PROJECT OPENS SOON

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 28 Jan 80 p 5

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan. 27: The execution of Rs. 336.55 million of the East Khairpur Tiles Drainage Project will commence next month, it is learnt here.

The Water and Power Development Authority which implementing this huge project for saving large tracts of agricultural lands from water logging and salinity, has already assembled the required machines at the project site. Meanwhile a Pakistani firm entrusted with the manufacture of P&C pipes needed for use in the drainage, will

also start delivering them at the site from February.

The project include construction of 710 miles long secondary drains 122 miles long water collectors and 27 miles long drainage nullahs. The project also include remodelling of 36 miles of existing canals and setting up of 41 pumping stations.

The work on the project for which the World Bank has also provided a loan of 14 million dollars is expected to be completed by June 1980.—AFP.

CSO: 4220

OVER 1.50 LAKH TONS BASMATI RICE PROCURED

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 80 p 5

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan. 20: The provincial government has so far procured 1,72,000 tons of basmati rice as against the target of three and a half lakh tons, it was learnt here today.

It is 34 per cent over and above the basmati rice procured during the corresponding period last year.

The government has procured 1,16,800 tons of irri six rice which is 42 per cent less than last year.

For irri six rice the government has started monopoly procurement in Bahawalpur, Rahimyar Khan, Multan, Muzaffargarh and D.G. Khan Districts also. These districts are likely to give at least one and a half lakh tons to FASCO which is doing the procurement job there.

For the procurement of basmati in these districts the government has given an option to the growers who may retain their produce with them or sell it to the government.

The rice procurement is in full swing in all the rice-growing areas and the government hopes that the basmati would be procured as targetted.

The shortfall in respect of irri six is stated to have procured due to non-favourable climatic conditions last year. However the government believes that the shortfall would be compensated to a great deal by basmati.

The procurement of both these qualities of rice is likely to continue by March next.—APP.

STEPS TO STABILIZE WHEAT PRICES

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 19 Jan 80 p 5

[Text] Multan, Jan. 18: The Punjab Government has decided to distribute wheat in deficit pockets of rural areas through existing rural ration depots, Provincial Food Secretary Mr G. M. Peracha said here today.

Addressing a Press conference he said the step was being taken to stabilize wheat prices and make the wheat available in such areas at a reasonable price. He said wheat would be supplied at Rs. 47 per maund and plus any transportation charges to be decided by the respective Deputy Commissioners.

The Government has also decided to supply atta in bags of 18 kilograms to make atta available at cheaper rates. The price of atta per bag would be Rs 25 exfactory and Rs 26 in the market.

He said 18,630 tons of wheat has been released in the bags. This was in addition to 90,000 tons released in this month for normal ration depots supplies.

The atta bags, he said, would be available at fair price shops in the Province.

Mr G.M. Peracha referring to the procurement of rice in the Province said that a target of 3.5 lakh tons each of Basmati rice and Irri rice had been fixed in the Province. He said till January 13, some 1.63 lakh tons of Basmati rice had been procured which was 48 percent more as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The target of Basmati was expected to be 'easily' achieved as against Irri procurement of which was some 14 percent less as compared to last year.

He said to achieve the procurement target of Irri rice, five new districts, Rahimyar Khan, Bahawalpur, Multan, Dera Ghazi Khan and Muzaffargarh have been declared as monopoly districts. The Government, he said, had directed PASSCO to procure Irri from these five districts. The PASSCO would also purchase Basmati rice but its sale on growers would not be compulsory in these districts.--APP.

MILLS TO GET WHEAT FROM GOVERNMENT RESERVES

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 23 Jan 80 p 5

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan. 22: The Punjab Government is considering to release some wheat from government reserves to the flour mills at the market rate, the Provincial Food Secretary Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Piracha said here today.

He told the APP that this wheat may go to the mills who are running on private account and have exhausted their own stocks.

Mr. Piracha said the provincial government had enough stocks in its reserves which could meet the total requirements of the Punjab till the harvesting of the new crop of even much later.

The Provincial Food Department plans to release one lac and 9 thousand tons of wheat during the current month which was enough to meet the requirements.

The Food Secretary said wheat in large quantities was also being released for "thela" atta which had supplemented atta being issued through the ration depots.

He said instructions have been issued to the District Food Controllers to the effect that at places where "thela" atta could not be made available they should after consulting the Deputy Commissioners concerned supply wheat instead of atta to consumers.

Mr. Piracha said the government was also keeping a close watch on the rural pockets where wheat or atta was needed. For some tribal areas of the D.G. Khan District where the government itself had felt the need, one thousand tons of wheat was sent during the current month.—APP.

CSO: 4220

SEED PLANT TO START WORKING IN JUNE

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] The seed-processing plant being set up at Sahiwal at a total cost of Rs. 4.26 crore will go into full production in June next, it is learnt.

A group of engineers from West Germany has arrived from the installation of the machinery. The group will impart requisite training to the local labour for the installation work.

Of the total cost of the plant an amount of Rs. 2.62 crore has been spent on the import of the machinery whereas Rs. 1.63 crore have been allocated for the construction of the building. The portion of the building where the machinery will be installed, has already been completed.

The Punjab Governor, Lt.-Gen. Sawar Khan, who yesterday visited the site of the plant, issued on-the-spot instructions to the Punjab Seed Corporation and the contractors to complete the remaining construction work without any further delay.

He also directed them for the early completion of the seed processing plants being set up at Khanewaj and Rahimyar Khan at a cost of Rs. 5.86 crore and Rs. 6.23 crore respectively.

The plant at Sahiwal will process 64,890 tons of wheat seeds every year of which 9,700 will be the share of the NWFP Government.--APP.

CSO: 4220

KHAZANA SUGAR MILL TO BE SOLD

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 20 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] A high-level committee was constituted to look into the process of disinvestment of SDA projects including the Khazana Sugar Mills.

This important decision was taken at a high-level conference held here on Saturday under the chairmanship of NWFP Governor Lt.-General Fazle Haq.

The committee, which will be headed by Provincial Adviser for Industries, will finalise the course of disinvestment in a way so as to enable the SDA to reinvest the proceeds in other projects in the province.

The conference observed that the sole object of disinvestment was to direct the functioning of SDA towards the basic goal for which it was created.

It noted that the aims and objectives of SDA were to promote and strengthen industries in the province and the process of disinvestment would greatly help in achieving this target as a revolving fund would be created which could be used for setting up further industries.

Issues pertaining to the charter of SDA and its relationship with the provincial government also came up for lengthy discussion.

In this connection it was decided that the Chairman of SDA should be included as a member of the provincial working development party to enable him to give his opinion on the financial aspects of SDA projects as well as other relevant industrial spheres.

The conference also discussed the present organizational structure of the corporate body and stressed the need for more improvements, particularly in its technical and operational responsibilities and obligation.

Expressing his views about the working of various wings of SDA, Lt-General Fazle Haq underlined the need for a close link and cohesion amongst the SDA and other such departments which were responsible for the industrial progress of the province.

He particularly asked the SDA officials to pay proper attention to the maintenance of existing projects.

He said that the NWFP was endowed with tremendous potentialities and their proper exploitation would bring revolutionary changes in our industrial life.

The conference, which lasted about six hours, was attended by provincial advisers, Chief Secretary, Chairman of SDA, Additional Chief Secretary, Chairman of the Tribal Development Corporation and secretaries of other relevant departments.

CSO: 4220

REQUIREMENT FOR IMPROVED FARM TOOLS DISCUSSED

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] The Punjab Governor, Lt.-Gen. Sewar Khan, on Sunday emphasised the urgent need of designing and fabrication of suitable machines and improvement of threshers currently in use for a better harvesting of the crops.

He was speaking at the inauguration of a four-day international workshop on the manufacturing technology of improved agricultural tools and implements at the Administrative Staff College, Lahore. The workshop has been sponsored jointly by the regional network for agricultural machinery, United Nations Development Programme and Agricultural Mechanisation Research Institute, Multan and is being participated by seven countries of the region besides Pakistan including India, Indonesia, Iran, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The workshop is being held to discuss development of threshers and seed drills in the participating countries and to finalise programme for improving the manufacturing technology of small and medium size agricultural tools and implements.

The Governor said that Pakistan was facing an acute shortage of labour in handling the crops, due to large scale cultivation of their short duration varieties. Paradoxically with increased availability of power at farm level through tractorisation, the labour shortage was becoming still more acute. The Government, in fact, was already worried

about the harvesting of the wheat crop planted over an unprecedented area this year.

The Governor said that designing and fabrication of suitable planting machines was also an immediate necessity for Pakistan.

The Governor said the holding of the workshop was of great importance for this region and Pakistan, where the agriculture sector was getting the undivided attention of the Government. Pakistan, he said, was predominantly a country of small farmers and stood in dire need of an appropriate technology for rapid mechanisation of agriculture.

The Governor said that like in other countries in this region, mechanisation had become imperative in Pakistan in view of the mounting pressure of population on land. The situation necessitated intensification of agriculture, which was only possible through mechanisation. He said Pakistan needed quicker farm operation and an efficient farm machinery, because it was a country where conditions to raise crops prevailed all the year round and more than one or two crops could be grown in quick succession in a year.

Lt.-Gen. Sewar Khan said the argument that "tractorisation" was not a workable policy in a poor country, where holdings were very small, had not proved true in Pakistan. Pakistan's experience in this regard during the last two years was most illuminating. Today the small farmers were quite conscious of the importance

of farm power in raising production and taking advantage of their awareness. The Government had been able to introduce tractor co-operatives on a massive scale, he said.

The Government, he said, had already been able to provide 5,000 tractors to the small farmers under the tractor co-operative scheme in the first phase and was going to provide 10,000 more during the next financial year. Tractor co-operatives were becoming very popular as this arrangement not only relieved the farmers of unwanted drudgery, but also allowed them spare time, which they could profitably spend in raising poultry and milch animals. Besides considerable fodder area was also saved which could be used for producing crops. He said mechanisation of agriculture in Pakistan was progressing at fairly faster rate than was ever hitherto believed by the planners.

The Governor was confident that by pooling the talent of engineers from other countries who had assembled here for the workshop, it would be possible to develop an appropriate technology for use in the entire region. He assured the organisers that the programme for mutual exchange of prototypes of agricultural machinery would receive full support from the Pakistan Government.

The inaugural session of the workshop was also addressed by Mr. Majid Hassan Khan, the Pakistani head of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (RNAM) and Project Manager of the workshop.—AFP.

OVERSEAS FOUNDATION TO TRAIN 5,000 WORKERS

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 23 Jan 80 p 10

[Text]

The Overseas Workers Foundation has decided to impart technical training to 5,000 persons during the current calendar year for overseas employment.

A spokesman of the Foundation said in Lahore on Tuesday that the OWF had entered into an agreement with the Overseas Employment Corporation that it would prefer to have the persons trained by the Foundation for overseas employment.

He said that the Foundation had been directed by the Federal Government to provide training to the maximum number of under-militar persons to meet the requirements of different countries for technical hands.

The spokesman said that the first training course in this connection would be inaugurated by the Federal Minister for Labour and Overseas Pakistanis, Lt-Gen. Faiz Ali Chishti on February 2 at Lahore.

He said that the Foundation had also invited private training institutions to cooperate with it in the imparting of training to persons registered with it.

The Foundation, he said, would like to get more and more persons registered for purposes of training, which could be done at the headquarters of the Foundation or its regional offices. The Foundation had opened its regional office in Shadman, Lahore.

In reply to a question, he said that the fields in which the training would be imparted included building, construction, carpenter, plumber, electrician, welder, air-conditioning and refrigeration, turner, auto electrician, etc.—

APP.

CSO: 4220

RAISE IN CEMENT PRICES UNDER CONSIDERATION

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 80 p 8

[Text]

The Government is considering to slightly increase the rate of cement in view of the increase in the railway freight rate, Mr. Aslam Iqbal, Chairman, State Cement Corporation of Pakistan, told newsmen in Lahore on Monday.

In reply to a question, he said freight rate of the cement coming from Zeal Pak Cement Factory to Lahore had increased by Rs. 2.50 per bag.

He said the Government had fixed Rs. 900 per ton of cement ex-factory price which would continue to be the same. Only the increased freight charges would be added to the other expenditures on the transportation of cement.

Mr. Aslam Iqbal said the corporation was already providing a subsidy on the sale of imported cement to the consumers at the rate of Rs. 4.50 per bag and could not afford to bear more burden in the shape of increased freight charges.

He said the case of increase in the rate was with the Ministry concerned which would send it to the Punjab Government for approval and the Deputy Commissioners would make the announcements in this respect

under Essential Commodities Act.

Regarding a report published in a section of Press about the shortage of cement, he said actually there was no shortage. The transportation problem created shortage for a few days due to the increase in the freight rate, he added.

In reply to another question, he said the rate of cement was higher in Lahore than anywhere else in the country. The reason was the transportation charges of cement from Zeal Pak to Lahore were higher.

The Government has now decided to import only five lakh tons of cement during the current financial year instead of 10 lakh tons as was decided earlier, thus saving its precious foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 40 crore, he said.

Mr. Aslam Iqbal said the decision in this regard had been taken due to various factors. The production of cement this year was one and a half lakh tons more as compared to the last year besides, Javedan expansion plant would go into production next month to provide 1.25 lakh tons of cement in addition.—APP.

UNDP PLAN TO ATTRACT TALENT OF NATIONALS WORKING ABROAD

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 80 p 7

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 21: The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has launched a two-year project to attract Pakistani origin scientists, engineers, technologists, managers, administrators and other specialists working abroad to visit Pakistan on short term consultancy programme assignments between two weeks to two months for the implementation of Pakistan's current Five-Year Plan. U.N. sources said here today.

UNDP is already in contact with some of the best qualifi-

ed Pakistanis working abroad including Nobel laureate Prof. Abdus Salam who has endorsed the UNDP initiative.

The UNDP programme will cost 148,000 dollars to meet all travel expenses involved both internal and external and will provide daily subsistence allowances for participating specialists.

The UNDP scheme will be evaluated on completion to determine further usefulness of such a project. Similar UNDP project launched in Turkey proved most successful.—FPI.

CSO: 4220

MORE INDUSTRIAL UNITS TO BE SET UP

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 28 Jan 80 p 2

[Text]

KARACHI, January 27: Various proposals for establishment of new industrial units in the country at a cost of Rs. 758.08 million including a foreign exchange of Rs. 633.75 million have been approved by the Central Investment Promotion and Coordination Committee. The approval was accorded at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Mr. Iqbal Saeed, Chairman Investment Promotion Bureau recently.

The CIPCOB considered 50 proposals of industrial units for manufacturing jute sacking, polyester textured yarn, dry battery cell, insecticide/pesticide, pharmaceuticals, cement, chip boards, paper board, cyta-

xyme products, plastic auto parts etc. at a total cost of Rs. 1,736.51 million including a foreign exchange of Rs. 890.61 million.

The proposals approved include creation of capacity for the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, paper board, ready made garments, cytaxyme products, confectionary, spinning of cotton and semi-worsted wool etc. costing Rs. 758.08 million.

The committee also cleared for government approval 11 proposals involving a total investment of Rs. 589.43 million for establishment of units for ter textured yarn jute textile, laundry soap, husk board, chip board etc.—APP.

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

HUGE DEPOSITS OF COPPER, SULFUR, GOLD FOUND IN CHAGAI

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 16 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] Detailed geological survey has determined huge deposits of copper, sulphur, gold, iron ore and molybdenum worth over 2.8 billion dollars in Chagai district.

Official sources said here that copper deposits had been estimated at 11.75.000 metric tons worth one and half billion dollars, gold at 9.43.600 ounces and molybdenum at 3.300 metric tons worth 150 million dollars. [as published] Molybdenum is metallic element with which steel is alloyed for making high speed tools.

Similarly iron ore deposits have been estimated at over 960 million dollars and sulphur deposits at over 800 million dollars.

Meanwhile, the Resources Development Corporation is making arrangements for exploring and exploiting copper deposits. With the exploration of copper deposits Pakistan will be in a position to export copper worth over 120 million dollars annually after meeting domestic requirements in about three years time. Exploration is expected sometimes this year.

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

REMARKABLE RICE EXPORT--Islamabad, Jan. 15: Pakistan's receipts through export of rice during July-December, 1979 were 219.78 million dollars as against 98.00 million dollars during the corresponding period last year, showing a remarkable rise. The export proceeds from rice during December alone amounted to 32.52 million dollars as compared to 22.11 million dollars during December 1978.--APP. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 16 Jan 80 p 7]

SUGAR IMPORTS--January 16: The Trading Corporation of Pakistan is reported to be importing one lakh tons of sugar from abroad to meet the deficiency in home production. This is in addition to the 19,000 tons imported by TCP about a month ago. The shipment of consignment of the new booking will take place in phases, starting from January and ending in June 1980. The booking is understood to have been made at London. Each consignment is expected to be of about 15,000 tons per month. It may be recalled that a decision had recently been taken by the Government to import about one lakh tons of sugar to bridge the demand-supply gap in the country. Although no authentic figures of annual consumption of sugar in Pakistan are available, according to a rough estimate it stands at about seven lakh tons. The sugar manufacturers in the private sector maintain that since the Government lifts the entire output of sugar for distribution, it should be in a better position to assess the total annual requirement of the commodity in the country. The total production of sugar in Pakistan this season may hardly touch the six lakh ton mark. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 16 Jan 80 p 7]

WHEAT CULTIVATION--Hyderabad, Jan. 23: The grow-more-wheat campaign is in full swing throughout the province, and so far 24.77 lakh acres have been brought under wheat cultivation thus surpassing the target by 1.63 percent. The climate and other conditions, according to experts are excellent. Meanwhile, the provincial Agriculture Extension authorities have launched a Farmer Training programme apart from programme over the radio, the field staff will go out to the farmers. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 80 p 5]

SEED EXCHANGE--Faisalabad, Jan. 20: The seed exchange programme introduced in seven districts of the Punjab during the current Rabi season has yielded good results in bringing considerable increase in the sowing area, the districts where the programme has been introduced are Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Vehari, Rahimyar, Khan, Sahiwal, Multan and Sargodha. Agricultural experts said here today that acreage under wheat cultivation during the current Rabi season has surpassed the target fixed for Sargodha Division by 4,000 acres. The total area brought under cultivation in the Division for wheat is about 27.44 lakh acres against the target of 27.40 lakh acres. The experts believe that the yield per acre from the crop is expected to be on the average 22 maunds and a total of 1.25 lakh maunds of quality wheat seed was distributed in the Division under seed exchange programme.--APP. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 80 p 5]

RECORD CARPET EXPORT--January 20: Pakistan carpet exporters are expected to achieve a major breakthrough this year because of the vacuum created by the temporary decline of the carpet industry and trade in Iran and Afghanistan. This year's carpet exports from Pakistan may break all previous records. Carpets, it may be pointed out, have already emerged as the fourth largest source of foreign exchange earning in Pakistan. In 1978-79, the carpets and rugs fetched Rs 1764.6 million in foreign exchange as compared to Rs 1,170.8 million in 1977-78. This shows almost 200 per cent increase over the 1974-75 export figure which was estimated at Rs 456 million. The foreign exchange earned through carpet export in 1978-79 was Rs 23.4 million more than the earnings through the export of all cotton fabrics in 1977-78 estimated at Rs 1,741.2 million. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 80 p 5]

GHEE MILLS APPROVED--The Punjab Government has approved plans for the setting up of four new vegetable ghee mills and five cooking oil units in the province with an investment of Rs. 9.46 crore, including nonrepatriable foreign exchange component of Rs. 3.71 crore. According to official sources, these units have been earmarked for districts of D.G. Khan, Bahawalnagar and Mianwali. The cooking oil units will have a total production capacity of 28,000 tons per annum. The units will be set up in the private sector and will cost Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 60 lakh each. The Government has set a target of two years for these units to come into operation.--APP. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 80 p 5]

AGRICULTURE IN PUNJAB--Sahiwal, Jan. 18: A total of Rs. 40 crore will be spent on agricultural development in the province next year. According to the provincial Secretary for Agriculture, Chaudhry Abdul Hamid, most of the allocation will go to installation of tubewells in nonirrigated areas and to the supply of quality seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. The Secretary said the target of wheat has been met after three years as a result of the all-out efforts made by the Government. The cotton production target, he said, has been achieved much ahead of schedule. The growers, the Secretary added, were fully cooperating with the field staff in endeavouring to increase the per acre yield in wheat, maize, gram, cotton and sugarcane. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 19 Jan 80 p 5]

KTPS EXPANSION--Karachi, Jan. 27: The Kotri Thermal Power Station near Hyderabad is being expanded with the addition of two gas turbines of 25 megawatts each to meet the growing power demand and stabilize the power system in southern region of the country, WAPDA sources said here. The governments of Pakistan and Japan have exchanged notes recently for a loan of 10.9 million dollars for the purchase of turbines and other allied machinery from Japan for this project. An appraisal mission from Japan visited Pakistan early this month to study the technical aspects of this project. They are now finalizing the loan agreement which is to be signed between the two governments in the near future.--APP. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 28 Jan 80 p 3]

SUGARCANE CROP BOOST--Faisalabad, Jan. 28: The Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture, Rear Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua said sugarcane is one of the important cash crops of Pakistan and so vital for the very sustenance of the sugar industry. Speaking at the inaugural session of the national seminar on sugarcane industry in Faisalabad at the University of Agriculture today, he said the country was facing a sugar crisis. And, with the socio-economic development the demand and consumption of sugar and 'gur' are rising. He said production was not only keeping pace [as printed] with the increased demand but also had fallen down.--APP. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 29 Jan 80 p 6]

BALUCHISTAN BANDITRY--Karachi, 4 January--Armed bandits held up and robbed passengers from three trucks and two buses about 190 miles from Karachi in Baluchistan regions. As a result of the shooting, one passenger in the bus was killed and another seriously injured. According to one source nearly two and one-half lakhs of rupees in cash and valuables were taken by the armed bandits before they escaped. The police have registered cases against the bandits on behalf of the victims. According to an eyewitness account about half past eight yesterday morning, between Adaran and Juhan in the hilly areas in Baluchistan, approximately 190 miles from Karachi, armed bandits stopped Bus no. QA 8308, driven by its owner Malik Muhammad Ali en route to Karachi from Turbat. Four bandits stopped the bus while eight or nine took positions on the hills. Muhammad Ali told the authorities that after stopping the bus the bandits ordered him and the passengers off the bus and marched them to a nearby hill. [Text] [Quetta JANG in Urdu 5 Jan 80 p 1] 9557

DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN JACOBABAD--Jacobabad, Jan 23: The Sind Government has released ten lakh and seventy-five thousand rupees for various development schemes in forth-three Union Councils of the Jacobabad district. This is a part of over thirteen million rupees earmarked by the Sind Government for development schemes in 555 Union Councils in the Province. This was stated by the Chairman, District Council Jacobabad, Mr Asad Khan Bijarani while addressing the Chairmen of the Union Councils in the District Hall here. He said, the amount would be spent on development of roads, bridges, culverts and other schemes, with the participation of the Councillors. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 80 p 1]

VEGETABLES FOR GULF STATES--Uthal Jan 22: An area of two hundred and fifty acres of land is being developed here for cultivation of vegetable and fruits on modern lines. The projects estimated to cost one hundred and twenty million rupees is designed to produce vegetable and fruits to meet the requirements of neighbouring Gulf states. This has been stated by the chairman of Investment Promotion Bureau Qazi Iqbal Saeed. He said investors from Arab countries would be invited for collaboration in the project when the farm is sufficiently developed. He said the project besides bringing sizeable foreign exchange to the country would go a long way to ameliorate the economic conditions of the local population. The farm would be first of its kind in Baluchistan. The project is part of an overall plan of the Federal Government to develop this province in the shortest possible time. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 23 Jan 80 p 1]

CSO: 4220

LOWER IMPORT DUTIES CONSIDERED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 31 Jan 80 p 9

[Article by George T. Nervez]

[Text]

A REDUCTION of tariff rates on imported raw materials is being studied by the government as a means to further assist export-oriented industries.

The proposed lowering of the tariff rates will replace the tax exemptions and other incentives granted to export firms.

The move is among the recommendations of the joint World Bank-International Monetary Fund mission which conducted a survey of the country's industrial sector sometime February last year.

By lowering the tariff rates on imported raw materials, local producers of export items will be able to reduce the price of their finished products and make their products competitive in the export market.

Moreover, government sources explained, this will prevent importing countries from imposing countervailing duties on the exports of local producers.

...

LOCALLY produced export items that enjoy tax exemptions are usually imposed countervailing duties by the importing countries to protect their own home industries from undue competition of products made

abroad.

It was pointed out that the lowering of the tariff rates on imported raw materials would also reduce the cost of finished products for domestic consumption.

In its report, the WB-IMF mission pointed out that the export potential of local industries has been stunted by the combined effect of present incentive measures and import restrictions.

THE MISSION added that the existing customs tariff system has caused an adverse impact on the manufacturing sectors in several aspects. These are:

- It has tended to channel resources into industries that are usually capital intensive, where the country has relatively less chance of competing with other countries. This has caused funds to be diverted away from labor-intensive industries.

- It has encouraged high cost, inefficient use of capital and excess capacity such as those in the textile and steel rolling industries.

- It has penalized exports by taxing importations of raw materials or permitting locally-produced raw materials to be manufactured at high costs and low quality. *George T. Nervez*

INDUSTRY OPERATING AT 75 PERCENT UTILIZATION IN 1979

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Jan 80 p 9

[Text]

MOST manufacturing firms were operating at 75 percent utilization last year despite rising production costs caused mainly by higher fuel prices.

According to the *Industry Digest* published by the Private Development Corp. of the Philippines, the manufacturing sector improved its performance in 1979 in terms of utilization compared to 1978 when average capacity utilization stood at 70 percent.

For the first half of this year, the PDCP publication says, manufacturing performance remains bleak although it could register a slightly upswing during the second half of the year.

Among selected industries, the PDCP report said the beverages sector posted the biggest increase in production, up by 11 percent, over

the previous year's level.

THE INCREASED output was attributed by PDCP to "gains in consumer incomes and spending particularly in the rural areas."

This, in turn, may be partially attributed to the favorable performance of coconut export earnings from where most of the incomes of rural areas come, the report said.

The textile manufacturing sector also registered a modest gain of 3 percent in production in 1979.

This was traced to a sustained improvement in consumer market demand for textiles locally.

The PDCP report noted however that despite the industry's production growth, it has failed to compete effectively in the export market.

PHILIPPINES

LOCAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES WIN OVERSEAS CONTRACTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Jan 80 p 15

[Text] Local construction companies won a total of \$369 million in overseas projects last year, according to the Philippine Overseas Construction Board (POCB).

This total brought to \$1.06 billion the aggregate value of ongoing overseas projects awarded so far to Filipino construction firms.

Meantime, total foreign exchange receipts from the overseas construction industry in 1979 amounted to \$341.42 million, consisting of corporate remittances of Filipino companies and salary remittances of workers.

Of the 15 registered contractors, erectors was top last year in terms of total contract values won overseas. The value of the contract bagged by the company was \$108.69 million. Construction Development Corp. of the Philippines (CDCP) was ranked second with a contract worth \$107.55 million, followed by Roblett Industrial Corp. with \$35.5 million and Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Co. Inc. with \$28.51 million.

Other construction firms that signed overseas contracts last year were: Alltech, D.M. Consunji Inc., F.F. Cruz Inc., Hydro Resources Inc., International Representatives and Contractors, Landoil, Paces Industrial Inc., Permatress, Philippine Iron Construction and Marine Works, Philrock and R.C. Gonzales.

Among the major contracts won last year by local contractors were: an \$89.2-million military troop facility in Saudi Arabia; a \$35-million gas recovery plant in Kuwait; a \$31-million oil treatment plant in Saudi Arabia and a \$16-million jungle clearing project in Indonesia.

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

NEW MARKETS RAISE COCONUT PRODUCTS EXPORTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Jan 80 p 14

[Text] Exports of coconut products to nontraditional markets such as Russia, China and Japan, amounted to \$220 million last year, representing about 22 percent of the value of total exports worth \$1.019 billion.

In volume, exports to the new markets reached 248,825 metric tons, or about 16.3 percent of the total volume of coconut products exported of 1,526,535 metric tons.

The single biggest nontraditional market for coconut products in 1979 was Russia. It bought 10,350 metric tons of copra worth \$6.6 million, and 67,359 metric tons of coconut oil worth \$160 million.

The other nontraditional markets were Japan which got 35,365 metric tons of coconut oil. The People's Republic of China got an estimated 20,660 metric tons, and Indonesia bought about 23,800 metric tons of coconut oil.

The data on the export performance of coconut products were made public yesterday by the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA).

Exports to the nontraditional markets have been steadily growing since 1969 when the value stood at only \$10 million and a market share of less than six percent, according to PCA chairman Rolando de la Cuesta.

The PCA head said that the combined earnings of all coconut product exports accounted for 27 percent of the country's total foreign trade income from merchandise exports.

A breakdown of coconut product exports is as follows: Coconut oil-\$735.6 million, copra-\$89 million, activated carbon \$7.8 million, copra meal-\$77.2 million and coconut shell charcoal \$5.1 million.

Top dollar earner was coconut oil with a total of \$735,605,166 or almost 73 percent of the total value. Volume-wise, it reached 794,619 metric tons, a decrease by 20 percent compared to the 989,515 metric tons exported in 1978.

Desiccated coconut export earnings rose by 25 percent at \$103,780,304 compared with 1978 earnings of \$82,827,389. Shipments dropped by only 9.25 percent from 91,498 metric tons to 83,034 MT.

Copra cake exports increased by 13.87 percent from \$67,936,281 to \$77,254,643. Volume showed a minimal deficit of 2.41 percent over 1978 volume of 511,528 MT.

Earnings from coconut shell charcoal increased by 71.58 percent, with a total of \$5,134,293 compared to only \$2,992,218 the previous year.

Activated carbon's earnings were up by 42.6 percent, from \$5,525,118 to \$7,878,930.

Earnings from copra declined from \$141,335,839 to \$89,031,600 or a 37 percent deficit, as volume dropped sharply from 379,777 MT to 144,850 MT.

As to prices, a bearish market prevailed over coconut oil as it continued its downward trend from \$1,008.5 per MT in August, 1979 to \$828.5 per MT in December of the same year, a decline of 18.9 percent.

The greatest bulk of shipment went to West Europe with a volume share of 885,737 MT or 57 percent, valued at \$403.96 million or 39.6 percent of total value. Major product exports to that market were copra meal, 99.8 percent, copra, 91 percent, coconut oil, 29.2 percent and desiccated coconut, 27 percent.

Share of the United States was 419,678 MT or 27 percent of total aggregate volume with value of \$394-M, representing 38.7 percent of total dollar receipts. Exports consisted mainly of coconut oil, 47 percent, desiccated coconut, 52 percent, coconut shell charcoal at 15 percent and activated carbon at 13 percent.

CSO: 4220

COCONUT OIL REMAINS HIGHEST EXPORT ITEM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Jan 80 p 14

[Text]

COCONUT oil topped the country's list of 10 leading exports in 1979 with dollar earnings amounting to \$675.56 million, an increase of \$200.46 million or 42 percent over 1978 revenues of \$475.1 million.

The other top exports and their corresponding dollar revenues include copper concentrates \$373.39 million, garments - \$253.59 million, lumber - \$227.32 million, sugar - \$193.50 million, bananas - \$153.41 million, logs - \$115.39 million, copra - \$114.61 million, gold - \$112.49 million, and electrical & electronic equipment and parts - \$105.69 million.

Last year, the country's exports earned a total of \$3.78 billion, an increase of \$914.21 million or 32 percent over 1978 earnings of \$2.867 billion.

Data on the performance of the country's top exports in 1979 were made public yesterday by the Central Bank.

A **SIGNIFICANT** development last year was the performance of non-traditional manufactured items, particularly garments.

As a commodity group, non-traditional products earned a total of \$976.49 million, an increase of \$86.98 million or 9.8 percent over the previous year's earnings. It accounted for 26 percent of total exports for the year.

The non-traditional products aside

from garments and electronics were wood manufactures - \$58.37 million, textile yarn/fabrics - \$68.02 million, furniture & fixtures - \$54.85 million, chemicals - \$54.31 million, machinery & transport equipment - \$53.14 million, and non-metallic minerals - \$30.86 million.

AMONG the coconut products, coconut oil was the top earner with \$675.56 million, copra - \$114.61 million, desiccated coconut - \$88.18 million, copra meal/cake - \$55.43 million, and others - \$9.46 million.

DURING the year, copra export earnings went down to \$114.61 million, down by \$19.4 million or 14.5 percent from 1978 revenues of \$134.05 million.

The success stories during the year were concentrated in mineral product exports.

Copper which suffered from a price slump in 1978 earned a total of \$373.39 million, a spectacular jump of \$117.32 million or 90.4 percent over 1978 dollar earnings of \$196.07.

It was a similar story for the glamor metal gold which generated \$112.49 million, up by \$15.75 million or 16.3 percent over earnings of \$96.74 million in 1978.

Nickel earned \$36.56 million, an improvement of \$23.09 million or a whopping 171.42 percent over the previous year's \$13.47 million.

-GTN

GENERAL MILLING SETS P150 MILLION FOR EXPANSION OF FACILITIES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Jan 80 p 16

[Text]

GENERAL Milling Corp. is expanding its broiler chicken production through financing provided by Philamlife and the International Finance Corp.

General Milling is active in a variety of agriculture-related operations including flour milling, animal feeds, corn processing and pig and poultry farming.

IFC is lending \$4 million for the project and investing \$1.1 million in GMC's equity. The Private Development Corp. of the Philippines (PDCP) and the Philippine Investments Systems Organization (PISO), in collaboration with IFC, syndicated P30 million in peso loan funds provided by

Philamlife.

The syndicated loan is secured by guarantees and standby letters of credit by PDCP for P20 million, Philippine Commercial and Industrial Bank for P15 million, the Chestnut Bank for P5 million, PISO for P5 million and Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company for P5 million. GMC's internal cash generation completes the financial plan.

The project's principal elements are the expansion of the company's breeder farms to increase egg laying capacity and the construction of new hatchery facilities and a new processing plant for broiler chickens, including refrigeration and storage facilities.

CSO: 4220

INCREASED SUGAR EXPORT EARNINGS ANTICIPATED IN 1980

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Jan 80 p 16

[Text]

THE COUNTRY'S sugar export earnings this year will likely top last year's \$400 million on account of improving world market prices and the increased export quota of the country.

Only last week, world sugar prices shot up to over 20 US cents a pound, a record since mid-1975, and the prospects point to higher prices as world consumption continued to exceed production.

The surge in sugar prices, as with other soft commodities like cotton, is partly due to the shifting interest by metal investors to these soft items.

For the current year, the country's sugar export quota (as determined by the International Sugar Organization or ISO) amounts to 1,321,198 tons. This represented an increase over the preceding

year's quota of 1,100,000 tons.

The increase in the country's quota (all quotas of ISO members were temporarily suspended because of rising prices) was triggered by the fall in the production of sugar producing countries.

Based on available data, it is expected that the country can more than meet this quota as 1980 production is estimated to 2.38 million tons or up on the previous year's by 2.2 million.

This means that the country is in a position to accommodate further increases in its export quota to cover the shortfalls in the quota of other sugar producing countries, thus cash in on rising world prices.

The latest quote of 20.3 US cents per pound, industry sources said, is already way above the current production cost in the country.

TUNA IS GAINING Foothold IN WORLD MARKET

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Jan 80 p 9

[Text]

PHILIPPINE tuna is gaining a foothold in the world market, making export earnings of more than \$23 million in 1979 from a mere \$1.18 million in 1971.

Much of the country's tuna catch has been supplied to foreign buyers, particularly Japan and the United States, making frozen tuna one of the leading dollar earners among fishery export products.

Officials of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources say the United States accounted for 48 percent and Japan 28 percent of the total shipments last year.

Canada, Puerto Rico and Hongkong shared the remaining 24 percent, they say.

According to officials, Filipinos engaged in tuna export business are presently exploring the possibility of penetrating the European market in efforts to expand and diversify their foreign outlets.

THE SUCCESS in tuna exports has not come easily, trade sources say.

Previous attempts to fish and export tuna ended in failure due to some economic reasons including insufficient and uncertainty of supply and the capital-intensive nature of the business.

The first recorded attempt to survey the tuna potential was in 1950 when the Pacific Fishery Development Co. of the Philippines bought two tuna boats of about 50-ton capacity each and equipped with facilities for detecting and catching tuna.

After trips around the Sulu Sea, and other known tuna fishing grounds in far southern Philippines and central Philippines, both reported encouraging prospects.

But despite this, nobody dared to take the initiative to invest in the business due to the large capital requirement and the high technology involved.

...

FIFTEEN YEARS later an American firm and a Filipino company signed a joint venture agreement to engage in the tuna business with an investment of P6 million (about \$16,000).

After two years of operation, the partnership folded up because of adverse developments, like inadequacy and uncertainty of supply.

Undaunted by this failure and other constraints, a fishing corporation was organized and invested heavily in the tuna business.

The firm - R.J.L. Martinez Fishing Corp. - became successful and it generated interest in tuna fisheries.

Some went into direct fishing while others depended on small town fishermen for supply.

Their joint efforts gave the Philippines the first tuna exports of 800,000 kilograms worth P1.2 million (\$163,000) in 1969.

One tuna exporter says one factor in the success of the tuna industry is a presidential decree which allows Filipino fishermen to charter foreign boats to be used in domestic fishing.

Because of this decree, the tuna fishermen can start up operations without buying tuna boats which require huge capital investment. (Ruter)

AUSTRIAN INVESTMENTS IN COUNTRY INCREASE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Miguel Genovea]

FRESDENT MARCOS said last night that the Austrian government agreed to pour in more investments and accelerate the transfer of technology into the country to broaden the economic cooperation between the Philippines and Austria.

This was disclosed by the President in an interview with newsmen after his talks with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in Malacatang.

The President pointed out that the Austrian Chancellor "is very cooperative" in extending assistance to help the country implement its major development projects.

THE PRESIDENT stressed that Austria is willing not only to make 100 percent investments but also to undertake joint venture projects with local businessmen.

Kreisky also agreed to extend a \$150 million loan to the Philippines to finance community development projects all over the country.

In addition to this, the Austrian government is also willing to grant loans to any feasible project with vast social impact.

KREISKY, the first Austrian head of state to visit the country, arrived yesterday afternoon on board a Singapore Airlines plane for a four-day state visit.

The Austrian Chancellor was accompanied by six ranking Austrian government officials, including Dr. Adolf Nussbaumer, secretary of state for economic affairs, and Otto Gatscha, head of the economic affairs section.

IN HIS WELCOME remarks, the President said that the visit of Kreisky will help bolster economic cooperation between their countries.

Kreisky, on the other hand, said that his trip to the Philippines will inject "a new element" in their countries' friendly relations.

THE PRESIDENT said that he also exchanged impressions on geo-political situations in Europe and the Middle East with Kreisky during their closed-door talks.

He said that Kreisky is optimistic that all these conflicts could be localized and could be solved, although there would be a "period of

rearming of every country."

Kresky also expressed concern about the oil crisis, saying that there might be a dislocation of the supply of oil.

...

THE PRESIDENT said that investments and transfer of technology from Austria will be in lines that are deficient in the country, as in integrated steel, coal development, machineries and others.

Specifically, Austria's technological and financial thrust in the Philippines will be concentrated in five areas, namely, energy development, mineral metallurgical upgrading, geophysical exploration, human settlements and technology transfer.

...

AMONG OTHERS, the Austrian government agreed to:

- Finance the establishment of the country's first coal-fuel power generating plant in Cebu, Batangas, with a capacity of 300 megawatts.

- Undertake a large scale coal development project in Semirara, Antique.

- Support the government policy of processing the country's basic exports such as iron and chrome. The ferro-chrome plant will be built at the Philippine Veterans Development Corporation industrial estate in Villanueva in Misamis Oriental.

...

AUSTRIA, a known source of quality manufactures because of advanced level of science and technology, has a population of 7.5 million and has an area as big as Luzon.

Since the country established ties with Austria more than nine years ago, the latter has responded positively to the Philippines' need for high technology and financial assistance.

Before the state dinner at the PICC, Kresky was conferred the Order of Sikatuna, the rank of Raja, the nation's highest distinction.

Today, Kresky is scheduled to visit Puerto Adu in Cebu and various projects in Metro Manila.

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MORE FISHING PORTS--The Ministry of Public Works (MPW) has allocated P20 million for the construction of 89 small fishing ports throughout the country this year. Construction of the ports will be undertaken shortly after proper sites has been selected in different municipalities identified as recipients by the Philippine Fish Marketing Authority. Authority has already been given for the construction of 48 ports. The fishing ports, built without foreign assistance, are expected to support the Biyayang Dagat program, a new fish production program launched by President Marcos. The program aims to increase fish production through the participation of small fishermen. The ports will consist mainly of a wooden wharf and rock causeway. Construction of the ports is expected to be completed within the year, the MPW said. (PNA) [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Jan 80 p 14]

FISHING PORT FOR ILOILO--The Regional Development Council (RDC) in Western Visayas has approved the construction of an P80-million fishing port complex in Iloilo City. Iloilo Gov. Conrado J. Norada, RDC chairman, said the fishing port complex will help Iloilo tap its vast fishery potentials and hasten the growth of fish processing and canning. The project, which will start July this year, will be funded by a loan from the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund. It is one of the five fishing ports which will be financed under the loan agreement signed between the Japanese government and the Philippines. According to the Ministry of Public Works, the Iloilo fishing port will involve the reclamation of several hectares of foreshore area in the city's Pala-Pala district. The port will have landing quays, mooring piers, dry docking and boat repair facilities as well as a fish market complete with ice-plant and cold storage. (PNA) [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Jan 80 p 15]

CSO: 4220

THAILAND

BRIEFS

RAILWAY STATION EXPLOSION--According to a report from the public relations center in Songkhla Province, at 1625 today an explosion in the waiting room of Hat Yai railway station in Songkhla Province killed three people instantly and wounded some 25 others. Songkhla Provincial Governor Charoenchit na Songkhal and Deputy Provincial Police Superintendent Pol Lt Col Krit Suphakitkarak have gone to inspect the site of the incident. The explosion was caused by a grenade with a trigger device hidden under a bench. Authorities are not investigating. [BK090511 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Feb 80 BK] A powerful time-bomb, believed planted by southern separatists, exploded in the waiting room of the Hat Yai railway station yesterday afternoon, killing four people and injuring more than 50, police reported. [BK090512 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Feb 80 p 1 BK]

COMMUNIST TERRORIST ACTIVITIES DROP--Press statement by Col Bancha Thongloi, representative of the Internal Security Operation Command--recorded, date not given--The number of terrorist incidents nationwide in December was 54. Terrorist activities have fallen off steadily during the past 3 months. "Their losses in December were 19 killed and 16 captured; 83 surrendered themselves to the authorities." During the last 3 months of 1979, the total communist terrorist loss was 572. The drop in communist terrorist activities could be caused by "the situation in the neighboring countries," by "the ideological conflict with the Communist Party of Thailand's leadership," by "the party's inability to expand the united front and secure mass support," and by "the drop in their manpower." [BK190958 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 18 Jan 80 BK]

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